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7/31/03 MB**Official**10/1/03 A  
A.W.M.  
8/29/03**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Dany Sylvain  
Serial No. 09/206,277  
Filed: 12/07/1998

Examiner: Tsegaye, Saba  
Art Unit: 2662

For: **HYBRID TDM AND ATM VOICE SWITCHING CENTRAL OFFICE AND  
METHOD OF COMPLETING INTER-OFFICE CALLS USING SAME**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED MAY 07, 2003**

In response to the office action mailed May 07, 2003, please find enclosed the following response. A credit card payment form is enclosed to pay the fee associated with the accompanying Request for Continued Examination (RCE). If any additional fees are required in association with this response, the Director is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account 50-1732, and consider this a petition therefor.

Appl. No. 09/206,277

**In the specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A<sup>1</sup>  
-- The computing module 40 has a signaling interface 46 with the ATM backbone network 22 to permit the computing module 40 to send messages to and received messages from distributed access MSPs (DA-MSP) 48 which serve as interfaces to the ATM network 22 for the respective central offices 26. As described in Applicant's co-pending patent application entitled APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR COMPLETING INTER-SWITCH CALLS USING LARGE TRUNK GROUPS which was filed by the Applicant on \_\_\_\_\_ December 2, 1998 and ~~has been assigned is now~~ United States Patent ~~patent application~~ Serial No.

\_\_\_\_\_6,141,342, each of the central offices 26 is preferably connected to the ATM backbone network 22 by a single large trunk group 50. Configuring each of the end offices 26 with a single large trunk group has several distinct advantages as thoroughly explained in Applicant's co-pending patent application, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference. --